This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-25 (Canceled).

26. (Currently amended) An apparatus for packaging contact lenses in a plurality of contact lens containers, each container having a recess, a sealing flange about said recess, and a contact lens within said recess, a plurality of said containers being sealed in said apparatus to a contiguous lidstock to form a set of packages, said apparatus comprising :

a plurality of vertically displaceable lifts in fluid communication with a plurality of pressure transducers;

a plurality of platens located adjacent to one another, each of said platens being individually ~~supported~~ vertically displaceable by one of said lifts;

a plurality of discrete carriers, said carriers being movable within said apparatus onto said plurality of said platens, such that each of said carriers is mounted on a respective one of said platens, a single one of said containers being mounted on a single one of said carriers to provide a plurality of said containers located adjacent to one another;

a lidstock maneuvering system for placing a contiguous lidstock over said plurality of said containers located adjacent to one another;

a mandrel disposed above said plurality of platens;

[[a]] said plurality of pressure transducers each capable of individually measuring ~~the~~ pressure applied between said mandrel and each of said platens; and

a controller responsive to signals received from each of said pressure transducers for controlling the vertical displacement of said lifts;

wherein pressure is controllably applied to said contiguous lidstock and each of said flanges of said containers by said mandrel and each of said platens to adhere said contiguous lidstock to said plurality of said containers to form a set of packages.

27. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein each carrier has a cavity, each said recess of said container being received in said cavity of said carrier.

28. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said lidstock has a thickness and said container has a thickness, and further wherein said mandrel is selectively moveable between a retracted upper position and an engaged lower position to seal said lidstock to said containers, and wherein in said lower position, a pressure applied by said mandrel against each of said platens is maintained within a predetermined range by the respective lifts, thereby compensating for tolerance differences in the thickness of said containers and the thickness of said lidstock to ensure that an adequate seal is formed between said lidstock and each of said containers.

29. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said plurality of pressure transducers are individually connected to said lifts, and further wherein said lifts apply pressure to said containers within a predetermined range, as determined by said plurality of pressure transducers.

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 26 wherein said mandrel is heated.

31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said lidstock comprises print, and further wherein said lidstock maneuvering system further comprises:

a vision alignment inspection system having means for checking the print quality on said lidstock and for simultaneously checking for registration of said lidstock within said apparatus based on the location of said print.

32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said lidstock maneuvering system further comprises a printing system and a cutting system.

33. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein said lidstock is fed from a roll under tension into said printing system and said cutting system and said alignment inspection system is located between said printing system and said cutting system.

34. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31, further comprising a heat seal apparatus.

35. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein said lidstock is held in position by said lidstock maneuvering system over said containers until said mandrel contacts said lidstock in said engaged lower position.

36 – 48 (Canceled).

49. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein each of said pressure transducers is individually mounted to each of said lifts.

50. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 32, wherein said lidstock is fed from a roll under tension into said printing system and said cutting system, and said vision alignment inspection system is located after said printing system.

51. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein said lidstock is mechanically controlled after said vision alignment inspection system to prevent misregistration of said lidstock in said heat seal apparatus.